



# Patawomeck Tides

ANNUAL PATAWOMECK TRIBAL MEETING

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 9, 2016**

Web Site:

[patawomeckindiantribeofvirginia.org](http://patawomeckindiantribeofvirginia.org)

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

1193 WHITE OAK ROAD

FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA 22405

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Sept. 08, 2016

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## FROM THE CHIEF

It has been a very busy year for the Patawomeck Tribe. 2016 was a productive year for us.

We are still in negotiation to acquire some property and a house for our Tribal History Museum and Cultural Center. As you know these things take time and we will keep everyone informed as things progress. As you know it took over 2 years to finalize everything on the Patawomeck Band Park. With DP Newton at the helm of the clean-up and clearing of the land at the Patawomeck Band Park, they are getting ready to cut down some trees to make room for a parking lot. Terry Frone, Bootsie Bullock and a young man from Stafford High School have been working with DP to get this work done. Let them know you appreciate all the hard work they have done.

Most of you know we had a Fund Raiser in May of 2016. It was attended by over 300 people. We had a spaghetti dinner, gospel sing and silent auction. We are happy to say this event brought in a little over \$8000.00. This money will be split between our Scholarship Fund and our Benevolence Fund. Many thanks to ALL who attended, and A BIG "THANK YOU" to all who volunteered to help. Without your help it could not have been done.

Our Tribe works daily to honor our ancestors, by teaching and learning our Native Language, presenting our Living History Villages and visiting 75-100 classrooms each year. We always need help of all kind to make these events possible. One way you can help is by paying your dues. Dues are \$20.00 per person 18-65. Dues are voluntary, but we ask everyone who can pay them to, please do so. We use this money to operate our Tribe. When paying dues please make checks payable to: Patwomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia and mail to : Dennis Harding 98 Belle Plains Road Fredericksburg, Va. 22405

Officers of the tribe are elected for 3 years.

Council members are elected for 3 years on staggered terms.

Elections are held at the Annual Meeting in October.

This year we also partnered with the Rappahannock Regional Library in obtaining a Federal Grant to present a program called Native Voices. The program was about Native Peoples concepts of Health and Illness and consisted of an opening night program by Yvonne

Epps-Giddings, myself and the Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth Traci Deshazor, who presented a letter of Appreciation to the Tribe from Governor Terry McAuliffe. We also had 6 other programs from July thru August. This has been one of the most successful programs the Library has had.

Dont forget our Annual Meeting Sunday October 9, 2016 at 2pm, at Bethel Baptist Church. Bring a covered dish and share food, fun and fellowship with your Tribal Family.

P.S. We will be having a FREE flu shot clinic Saturday October 22, 2016 ...9-1 at White Oak Fire Dept. for anyone 18 and over. They will also be checking blood pressure that day.  
We will serve coffee, donuts and juice.

We are looking forward to another prosperous and eventful year. Remember 'WITH YOUR HELP IT IS POSSIBLE'

**-Chief John Lightner**

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### ***CaMa Wingapo CeskCaMei, (Hello All friends)!***

As *A'PeTiu KoHaTaYo* ( Hot Summer) comes to an end and TaKwiTok (Fall) is around the corner, and the start of another year of the Patawomeck Language Class which begins in October. Hopefully you can check your schedules and attend a fun packed hour of learning Patawomeck version of the Algonquian language!

The Patawomeck Tribe continues to be involved in our community. Requests continue to come in for our participation to share the Patawomeck Tribal culture. I would like to encourage tribal members to participate in the language/educational/cultural exhibits. Keep in mind that regalia and present day dress are always welcome to all events.

I also urge all members to attend open meetings and bring your ideas to share. Make sure that your correct e-mail address is in the tribal data base, to receive periodical tribal e-mails for tribal happenings. Check with Minnie Lightner if you are not sure your e-mail is in the tribal database. I encourage all members to keep a periodically check on the tribal website [www.patawomeckindiantribeofvirginia.org](http://www.patawomeckindiantribeofvirginia.org) for all events posted. Events such as The Wild Outdoor Event in March in Locust Grove, Earth Day at Old Mill Park in April, New Hope Methodist Church Fall Festival in September and Youth Day Events at Caledon State Park also in September, gives the tribe a great opportunity to share with the community. I hope to see you there.

Big thanks to Chief Lightner and Minnie for their dedication and countless hours of attending tribal affairs, in which entails many miles of traveling. Pass on thanks when you see them!

A special thanks to Donnie and Gail Shelton for doing a great job on the new member applications and our tribal historian/councilman Bill Deyo, for prompt application review.

Last but not least, I applaud the hard work your councilmen and women have put in this year. There have

been many work sessions throughout each month. Thank each one of you for all of your support of the Patawomeck people.

Always remember, give thanks daily to our Creator and always pause, to reflect on your family as well other families going through trails of life.

***Ahon (God) is A'PenWa WinKan (always good)  
KeNa (thanks)***

Charles "Bootsie" Bullock  
WeRo'ANses (Lesser Chief)

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### IT'S ALIVE

Want to learn some words and phrases? Garry Cooper has spent countless hours in making the class available to Tribal Members. He has designed a class for students to learn words, phrases and sentences without the grammatical detail. As a child you learned English by listening and repeating what you heard. You will learn Patawomeck the same way in the conversational class. There will be two classes a month.

The advanced class will continue with one meeting a month. Members of that class are welcome to attend the conversational classes and helping.

The Youth Class and its band of four hardy Students will meet twice a month. The same weeks as the conversational class. We invite new students, young and old to come give it a try.

If you are interested, we ask that you sign up. Materials have to be prepared for each student, which take time and effort. We have a great nucleus of children and adults, but need greater participation. The Patawomeck Tribe is the only Algonquin speaking tribe in the State with an active language class. Greater participation by our members gives a greater possibility that our language will survive. First class ; Oct. 16, 2:30 PM. Last class; May 21, 2:30 PM. Adult classes sign up: Email Garry-gensv@juno.com Youth Sign up Johnny Mac- coboyreb@outlook.com

*The conversational class is a great way to become comfortable in the basic use of the Patawomeck Language. Give it a try.*



## ***A TRIBUTE TO WHITE OAK SCHOOL'S 104th BIRTHDAY***

*by Bonny Blakley Newton*

This article is written in honor of the teachers and students of White Oak School (WOS). The original part of the building turned 104 years old this year and it was time to pay tribute to the rich history of one of the most significant landmarks in our area. There was no question the best pair to interview are the sons of one of the dedicated teachers who taught at White Oak School. On June 20th, 2016, it was my great pleasure to sit down with Miss Mattie Chinn's sons, James Thomas "J.T." Chinn, IV, aged 92, and John McGuire "Johnny Mac" Chinn, 79, at the White Oak School (now the White Oak Museum). There were too many rich memories about White Oak School and many Stafford residents from yesteryear to put in one article. We spent nearly 4 hours together with 12 pages of notes and many follow up emails. I could have spent another month listening to these two very interesting cousins and fellow Patawomeck Tribal members.

WHITE OAK SCHOOL HISTORY: Stafford Deed Book 14, p. 314 shows that on Aug. 31, 1912 one acre of land belonging to James T. Chinn & wife Susan E. Chinn\* was deeded to the Board of School Trustees of Falmouth District which was opposite White Oak Church and along the roads leading to Fredericksburg and Potomac Creek. After Bethel School burned to the ground, construction for the White Oak School (WOS) began in late 1912 and opened to the first students in September 1913. The School had grades first through six. For 54 years children were taught subjects that each of them would use all the rest of their lives. After more than half a century White Oak School closed her doors as an elementary school in 1967. \*J.T. & John's grandparents

School life decades ago was not anything like school life today. For the first 40 years there was no plumbing in the school so from the well outside teachers and students would draw water each day. To keep heat inside the uninsulated building, with 12' tall ceilings, each room had a 50 gallon steel oil drum converted into a wood burning stove, which was the only source of heat. With axe in hand the 5th and 6th grade boys would cut kindling and fire wood, but usually only the teachers started the fire. Because of tuberculous and other diseases of the day each child brought their own cup to school and a dipper was used to pour into each cup.

To understand the level of poverty in White Oak John Chinn said Stafford community had always been in some degree of survival mode. DP Newton says that economically, after the Civil War, Stafford County was ravished of any resources and she did not come back equally to the surrounding counties until 1970. For the first forty years WOS children and teachers packed lunches with things like a hard fired egg on corn bread to home-made biscuits and a scrambled egg, and the White Oak-staple, baloney. Some brought salt herring between thick slices of hoe cake or corn bread. I remember my mama (Shiney Bullock Blakley) saying she carried her corn bread and salt herring in an empty King Syrup can. John went on to explain that some children came to school with nothing to eat and the teachers and other children would share their lunches. Often extra sandwiches were made and sent for the specific purpose of seeing that those without had something to eat. If it hadn't been for rabbit, squirrel, ground hog, raccoon and possum some children would have starved.

When White Oak School opened up in 1913 children had to walk or ride a horse, and those more fortunate drove buggies like the Gayle children. After school the older Gayle's would race to that buggy, grabbing the reins & smacking the horse to make him fly--- delighted to leave a crying younger Gayle running behind. Even years later the children who lived on Caisson Road (also called "Sullivan Town")



still walked to school, but eventually there was one school bus which picked up children all around Belle Plains and Newton Road. Aubrey Clift was one of the first drivers.

White Oak School had a hand wound Regulator School Clock that hung by the stage (John says his friend, Buddy Payne, remembers it well). That clock kept perfect time and helped the children to learn to tell time when it rang out, counting for each hour and rang one ring each half hour. In John's time, only Miss Robinson was allowed to wind the clock. She wound it at end of day and the last thing on Friday afternoon and first thing Monday morning. John said, "That old clock. I hope it is ringing some place now."

A stage was eventually added for school plays and it was also used by the P.T.A. (Parent Teacher Association) for various functions. Musicians like Charlie McGregor and the Lazy K Ranch Boys played benefits to raise money for those in need. The lead guitarist was "Dish Pan" Dent. The school had a small museum in the front, near the porch and main entrance. There was a cannon ball and Civil War minie balls, along with a stuffed eagle given by our own Garry Cooper's, (our language teacher) uncle, Ed Embrey. The school had a large bell and children were allowed to ring the bell, as well as, raise the flag. Dennis Ray Newton, life-long resident of White Oak, said in the late 1950's school boys bricked the outside of the clapboard school. Around this same time an addition was built on the school that included the first cafeteria. The school also had a large radio tuned to WCKY out of Cincinnati, Ohio. Rich Blue Grass music could be heard loudly booming.

As for teachers' salaries, early on, White males made more than White females, and Blacks made a little less. In 1910 a rural teacher (who could not be married) made no more than \$492 a year (that's \$12/week). In the 1940s \$20+ a week (\$960-1200/year) was the average salary. Jane Conner says that by 1958 an elementary white teacher made \$3,180 in Stafford. Jerrilynn McGregor says, "The concept of not paying teachers a living wage dates back centuries. Women were not supposed to work and the work they did was seen as only marginally significant. When I commenced my career in the public school system as a librarian in 1976 in Prince William County, I received \$8,800 for the first year.....The incredibly meagre salary was openly justified by county administration with the idea that teachers should happily sacrifice a living wage salary 'for the good of the children'."

I asked the Chinn brothers about the dropout rate for those 54 years. In the earliest days there weren't any laws for compulsory education. Many parents simply did not send their children to school and others would pull their children out when there was work at home or in the fields. My Granddaddy Gordon Bullock told me he quit in the 3rd grade (around 1919). My mother and D.P.'s parents, Pat and Polly Sullivan Newton, each went to the 7th grade, which agrees with what Johnny Mac explained, "Before the law most families in my time made their children stay in school until at least 7th grade, or, when they could read and do basic arithmetic. Sometime around or after WWII the State made a mandatory law that said you had to go to school until you were at least 16. Many a big boy from Miss Monroe's 5th and 6th grade classes was sent back into my mom's 1st and 2nd grade, to sit embarrassed, in one of those tiny chairs, and go through the Baby Ray and the Cuning Kitty Cats Primer, with younger folks."

Johnny Mac is referring to his and J.T.'s mother, "Miss Mattie" Chinn, as the school children called her, who taught 1st and 2nd grades at White Oak School. Johnny Mac laughs when he says he went to first grade at White Oak six times. From the age of 3 his mom brought him to school with her. His mother was even his first grade teacher. Miss Mattie was tiny in statue but "tall" in strength of character and she cared deeply about her students. Her concerns went beyond their learning. With times hard and many of the local

children very poor, Miss Mattie put love into action with students like one little boy that John remembers clearly. His clothes and shoes were in tatters and Miss Mattie ordered from Montgomery Wards in Baltimore a chambray shirt and dungarees, a jacket, a pair of socks and new shoes. Miss Mattie warmed a bucket of water on the wood stove and taking the first grader in a closet gave him a bath and dressed the happy little fellow in his new clothes. Even after he grew up he never forgot his first grade teacher's kindness. After he enlisted in the service, fighting in WWII, he would visit Miss Mattie when he came home on leave. She had lasting friendships with other students, as well. As a matter of fact her first teaching position was at Brooke Station School. All the teachers before her had been intimidated and thrown out by ruffian students, however, on her first day the young teacher had help when big and strong Alaric McGregor stood up and told the rowdies to, "Sit down and shut up....or else!" After Alaric grew up and became the Sheriff of Stafford he would often stop by to check on Miss Mattie. This dear woman's continued devotion to teaching motivated her into her 70's as she substituted at three schools: White Oak, New Hope and the old Falmouth High School. Miss Mattie Chinn died in 1988 at the age of 87, just two months after her husband, Dick (J.T. III), died.

There were many teachers devoted to teaching at White Oak School from 1913-1967. Johnny Mac remembers Ida Robinson was both Principal and teacher of 3rd and 4th grades, and she kept order in her class room. He said, "She could look at you with such a look that your clothes would start burning!" During Johnny Mac's school years two classes were in the same room, but later, there was a large screen on wheels which would divide a room. Dennis Ray Newton, who attended after Johnny Mac also attended all six grades. He remembers other teachers well from the 1950s: Mrs. Willard (James Willard's most beloved and respected grandmother) taught 4th and 5th grade; Mrs. Lowe taught the 4th; Mrs. Newcomb took over from Mrs. Gayle, teaching 1st and 2nd; Miss Scythes was a Principal, as well as teaching 5th & 6th grade); Mrs. Wright taught the 3rd grade. I was impressed with how, after 40, 50 and even 60 years, these teachers are vividly imprinted in the memory.

In a 1983 tribute to White Oak School teachers held at Community Baptist Church, T. Benton Gayle, Superintendent of Schools for both Stafford and King George Counties for 40 years (1925-1965) declared, "That little school came into being at the beginning of a very important period in the development of our Country. Who can put a value upon the worth of the education offered and gained by the many young Americans who were in attendance at this very small, three classroom school.....and, which for the last 15-20 years has had modern plumbing facilities, a well-arranged cafeteria, an adequate auditorium with a stage and four full size classrooms, as well as, an adequate playground. The first teachers, when the school was brand new, were Miss Fanny Lee, Miss Mary Lee and Miss Mabel Jones. Year #2 added Miss Florence Ryland as Principal and teacher. There was Miss Mary Powell Wilson (who later married Dr. Scott); Miss Marion Andres; Mrs. Helen Whitlock (Principal); Mrs. Lucy Belle Schull; Mrs. Frances O.H. Gayle; Mrs. Elizabeth N. Willard; Mrs. Jean M. Lough, Mrs. Mattie M. Chinn, Miss Ida Robinson, and no one was a better Principal; Miss Margaret Monroe, one of our best primary teachers. There was Mrs. Gladys Strickler and Mrs. Wortley S. Sykes and Mrs. Mayme Broach, all good principals. Another excellent primary teacher was Mrs. Alice Gray Newcomb. There was a Miss Reese, Mrs. Frances Hall, Mrs. Pearl Brent, Mrs. Sandra Buchanan and Mrs. Lewis Allen. And, we can never forget the mothers who helped..... Many parents gave canned fruits and vegetables and put up soups, etc. for the schools. Some parents did all that and then went to the schools and helped prepare the meals and do the cleanup. Anyone who worked with the schools soon learned that the homemakers, the MOTHERS, were the backbone of the entire system. IN THE HOME, IN THE CHURCH AND IN THE SCHOOL." By T. Benton Gayle

Teachers and principals of White Oak School had a lasting effect on the area children. They worked to see that each child got a good elementary education. They knew the 3 Rs (Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic) were the corner stone of learning, and if a child stayed in school long enough to absorb these subjects they would be better prepared for day to day living for the rest of their lives. Never forget to say a silent “thank you” when you write a letter and sign your name, when you read a newspaper or a highway sign, or count out the right change to a store clerk, or, multiply and divide numbers in your head, because those skills were taught to you by your elementary school teachers. My very humble but smart husband says, “Everything I learned that was important I learned at White Oak School.” We thank you, White Oak School, and to those that made your long existence possible. We honor the many teachers for their ongoing legacies still rich in dedication and love. May the memories that the many Patawomeck descendants who attended WOS be shared with others, and blessings to all White Oak School’s former students---those like John Chinn and Dennis Ray Newton and D.P. Newton, and the MANY others who have fond memories and life-long friendships--- all made here at White Oak School.

*Sources for this article are 20 June 2016 Interview with brothers, J.T. Chinn and John Chinn at White Oak School/Museum; T. Benton Gayle’s typed talk that DP Newton has in his Museum, dated 30 June 1983, that Mr. Gayle gave at Community Baptist; Dennis Ray Newton, expert Waterman and life-long resident of White Oak; Jerrilynn E. McGregor, well-respected author and historian and retired librarian and Stafford resident; and, Jane Conner, well-respected author and past President of Stafford Historical Society, and retired Stafford teacher and Stafford resident.*



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### ***The Patawomeck Finnall Family***

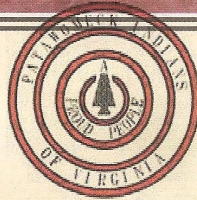
Anyone who has roots in the Finnall family in Stafford before 1900 is certainly a descendant of the Patawomeck Tribe. The name is spelled in various ways in the public records as Finnall, Finnell, Finney, etc. All of the family in Stafford were descended from Jonathan Finnall and Magdalen Monteith. Magdalen, born about 1735, was the daughter of Thomas Monteith and Phyllis Gallop, whose mother, Elinor, was a granddaughter of the Patawomeck Indian, Keziah Arroyah, daughter of Chief Wahanganoche.

Magdalen Monteith married first to her cousin, Anderson Doniphan, and had five children, including a daughter, Elizabeth, who married Richard Shipp, and was the great grandmother of President Harry Truman. After the death of her first husband, Magdalen married secondly, about 1763, to Jonathan Finnall, who lived until 1792. We do not have a complete record of all of the Finnall children but do know the names of several of them as follows: (1) Frances Monteith Finnall (abt. 1763-1815), who married James Hansbrough (by whom she had Joseph Sumner, Lucy Doniphan, Eleanor Sumner, Peter, James, Thomas DeEll, and John Calhoun Hansbrough); (2) John "Jack" Finnall, who married his first cousin, Aroye Monteith, daughter of James Monteith and Leah Owens, who were also cousins and both of Patawomeck blood (by whom he had John, Elizabeth, Edward, and Leah Finnall); (3) Robert Monteith Finnall (abt. 1775-1847), who married first to Margaret Newton, daughter of John Newton and Mary Thomas (by whom he had at least a son, Walter H. Finnall) and secondly to Mary Rollow (by whom he had Thomas, John, Francis, Jane, and Mary Ann McD[ermott?] Finnall); (4) Eleanor S. Finnall, who married Joseph T. Newton, son of John Newton and Mary Thomas (by whom she had a son, James Finnall Newton, who married his cousin, Eleanor Sumner Hansbrough); (5) Jonathan Finnall, Jr. (1782-1852), who married Elizabeth Claiborne Fox, daughter of Capt. Nathaniel Fox and Sarah Newton, daughter of Maj. William Newton of "Little Falls", and had one son, Nathaniel Claiborne Finnall, who died without issue; and probably (6) Sarah (Finnall?), who married Samuel Cox (by whom she had a number of children, including a son, Austin Cox [who, along with his wife and children, made his home with Jonathan Finnall, Jr., above] and a daughter, Matilda Cox, who was the first wife of Gustavus B. Newton, later husband of Eleanor Monteith, daughter of Enos Monteith). Note that Gustavus B. Newton was the son of Benjamin Newton, who was a brother of Joseph T. Newton and Margaret Newton, above, which helps to support by association that Sarah, wife of Samuel Cox, was indeed a Finnall. Anyone who descends from this Finnall family might want to visit the illustrious home of Frances Monteith (Finnall) Hansbrough, above, called "Salubria" in Stevensburg, Culpeper County. "Salubria" is a beautiful example of 18th Century architecture. Among the graves in the Hansbrough family cemetery there is the tombstone of Thomas DeEll Hansbrough, who was named after his great great great grandfather in Scotland, Sir Thomas Dalyell, Baronet of Binns. The name of Dalyell is pronounced like the letters "D. L." Sir Thomas Dalyell was the father of Lady Magdalen Dalyell, wife of James Monteith of Auldcathie, who were the parents of Thomas Monteith, the immigrant to Virginia, father of Magdalen Monteith, who married Jonathan Finnall of Stafford County.



William L. Deyo





# **6<sup>th</sup> Annual PATAWOMECK TRIBAL Craft Show**

Saturday, November 12, 2016

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Bethel Baptist Church

1193 White Oak Rd, Fredericksburg, VA 22405

White Oak, Stafford County, VA

All handcrafted items by local artisans:

Native American Items

Jewelry

Knitted & Crocheted Items

Quilted & Sewn Items

Hot Food will be available for sale

Bake Sale, Raffles

For more information call Kathy Harding @ 371-1527

*Please bring 1 canned food for donation to the  
Fredericksburg Food Bank.*



The Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia is no longer connected to the Patawomeck Heritage Foundation in any way. If you would like to make a contribution to the Patawomeck Indian Tribe make check payable to the Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia and mail to:

*Dennis Harding*  
*98 Belle Plains Road*  
*Fredericksburg, VA 22405*

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ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 9, 2016 2PM  
BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH  
1193 WHITE OAK ROAD  
FREDERICKSBURG, VA. 22405  
BRING A COVERED DISH AND SHARE FUN FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

LANGUAGE CLASS OCTOBER 16, 2016 2:30PM  
BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH  
FREDERICKSBURG, VA. 22405

FREE FREE FREE FREE  
FLU SHOT CLINIC  
OCTOBER 22, 2016 9-1  
WHITE OAK FIRE DEPT.  
COFFEE, DONUTS AND JUICE WILL BE SERVED  
BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

PATAWOMECK ANNUAL CRAFT SHOW  
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2016 9-3  
BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH  
1193 WHITE OAK ROAD  
FREDERICKSBURG, VA. 22405

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Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia  
1416 Brent Street  
Federicksburg, VA 22401

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